

A FEW TIPS FOR STAYING HEALTHY ON THE PLAYA WHILE YOU ATTEND BURNING MAN

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE NEVADA DIVISION OF
PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

- ✚ Use the hand sanitizer after using the port-a-potties. Apply it faithfully and liberally. If a station is empty, locate a ranger and let them know so it can be re-stocked.
- ✚ DO NOT run after water trucks that are spraying water on roads for dust control. This water is non-potable and should not be used to cool down or bathe. The water in these vehicles could contain bacteria that could make you sick. The playa gets very slick when water is applied to it and falling is another risk.
- ✚ Drink only bottled water or water that you know the origin of. Do not accept water from camps that you have doubts about, and do not share water bottles and canteens with other people.
- ✚ Keep the refrigerated food in your camp colder than 41°F at all times. Restock the ice frequently and use a thermometer to make sure it is staying cold. If it becomes warm, bacteria will begin to grow and multiply and you could become sick as a result of eating it. This precaution applies to cut fruits such as melon as well.
- ✚ If you are heating food, bring it to a full rolling boil or use a stem thermometer to make sure it gets to an internal temperature of at least 165°F. Do not

undercook fish, chicken or other raw foods of an animal origin. They are especially dangerous.

- ✚ Do not hold any food out of temperature more than 2 hours. Bacteria numbers by that time will be such that food borne illness will be very likely.
- ✚ Keep the food surfaces in your camp as clean as you can. Wash your dishes in soapy water and rinse them in water that has 2 teaspoons of bleach added for every gallon of water. Dirty dishes can breed bacteria and make you ill.
- ✚ Be cautious about where you eat and drink. While sharing is a great part of the Burning Man experience, food sharing has inherent risks associated with it. Be very careful about eating a food that you are offered if you are not sure that it has been prepared safely. Food sharing camps that are permitted by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health will likely be inspected and will be provided with information on the minimum standards for cleanliness and food safety. We are on the playa every day. If you are unsure about a food sharing venue, ask us and we will try and assist you.
- ✚ Food served at a potluck should not be assumed to be from a safe or approved source. The food served at a potluck will most likely not be inspected. Potluck hosts and/or organizers assume all liability for all the foods served and all risks associated with service of unpermitted foods.
- ✚ If you want to have a food sharing camp, contact us or look on our website for the food permit application. A food permit is required in most cases.
- ✚ If you exhibit symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, high fever, jaundice and malaise, you may be

carrying a viral pathogen that is highly contagious to others. Seek medical attention immediately and do not prepare or handle food.

- ✚ The sun is not your friend on the playa. It is a brutal source of radiation that can make you very sick and ruin your playa experience. Use hats, shades, sunscreens and shelters to minimize your dose!
- ✚ If you have other questions that you need assistance with, ask us. We are happy to help. You will know us by the Nevada State Health Division logo on our shirts.
- ✚ We hope your time at Burning Man is fun and healthy!